

2006 ELECTION

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



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I graduated summa cum laude from Yale College in 1987 and then attended Yale Law School. While at law school, I worked for the United Nations, helping draft treaties on biological diversity and hazardous waste dumping.

Since graduating from law school in 1991, I have pursued a career in public-interest environmental law, focusing on protecting Hawai'i's cultural and natural treasures for current and future generations to enjoy. On Kaua'i and Moloka'i, I worked with residents concerned about muddy run-off destroying the coral reefs on which they depend to put food on their tables. On O'ahu, I convinced the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to evaluate the public safety and health threats of putting a nuclear facility next to active runways at Honolulu's airport and reached agreement with the Army to answer the community's decades-old questions about the impact of military training at Makua on Hawaiian cultural sites, endangered species, and public health. Throughout the state, I have helped protect native forests that are essential for saving imperiled species, preventing polluted run-off from fouling our beaches and ocean, and replenishing our drinking water supplies.

I have served on the board of Life of the Land, promoting a sustainable energy future for Hawai'i. As a member of the Palolo Neighborhood Board, I tackled grassroots community issues like traffic and noise.

My work with people throughout Hawai'i to promote sustainable development and environmental stewardship has taught me that seemingly impossible conflicts often create opportunities for creative solutions.

I am married and have two children.